

# *The Heterodyne*

*Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association*

## **February Meeting via Zoom**

***Reducing RF Interference  
by Gary Johnson, NA6O***

***Wednesday, February 10  
Meeting Starts at 7pm  
Visitors Are Welcome!***

***Due to the corona virus, there will not  
be a meeting at American Red Cross.***

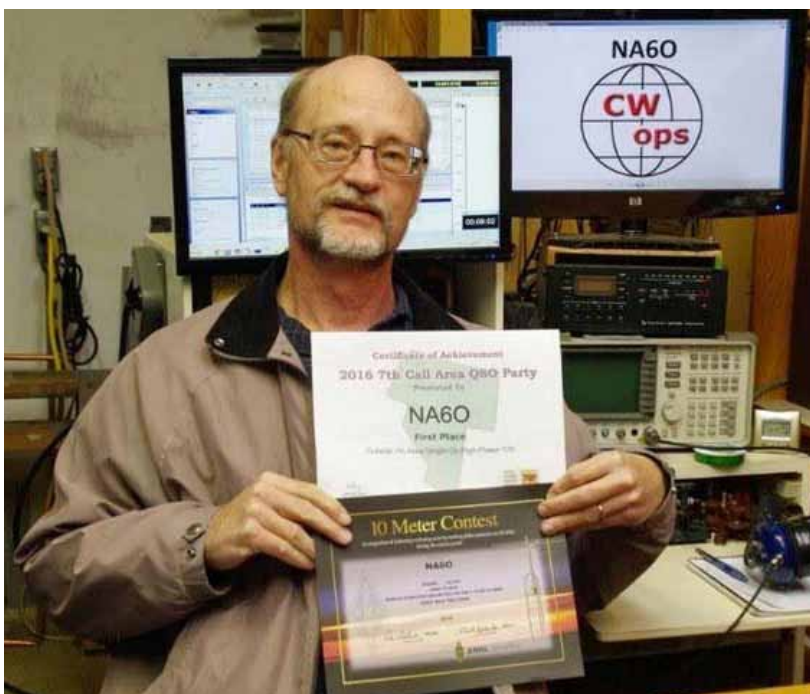
***Zoom Meeting Information: Zoom details have been released via the WVARA email reflector. If you aren't yet a WVARA member and would like to attend, feel free to contact me via [k6ei@wvara.org](mailto:k6ei@wvara.org) for the Zoom meeting details.***

## **WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)**

Band	Frequency	PL
6 Meters	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz

## **Club Net**

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at [www.wvara.org/net.html](http://www.wvara.org/net.html).

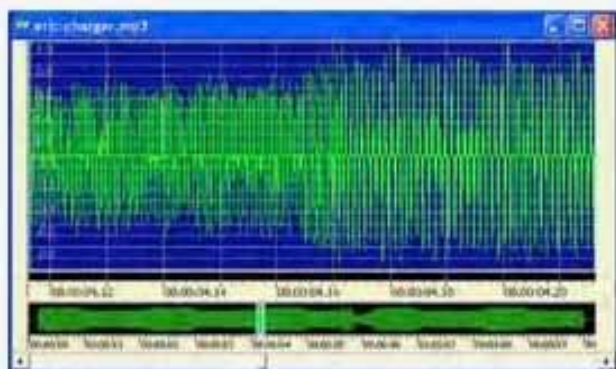


## **Reducing RF Interference**

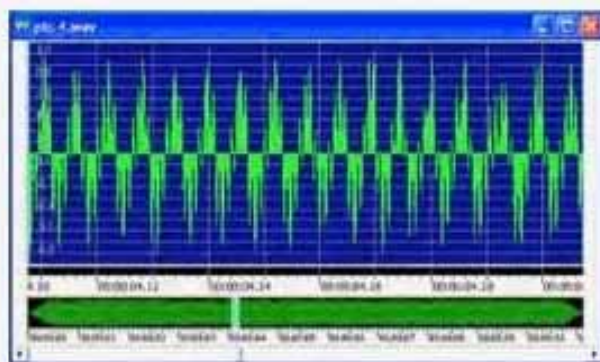
Gary Johnson, NA6O, will tell us how to reduce/eliminate RF noise before it gets into your transceiver. Gary will discuss how RF interference to amateur radio is steadily increasing due to the wide-spread use of poorly-filtered commercial electronic devices. In this talk, we will learn about these noise sources, how to locate them, and a number of techniques to reduce their effects. Lists of references and resources will be provided.

Bio: Gary, NA6O, is a retired electronics engineer with a degree from the University of Illinois. His entire career was spent at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where he

used his diverse skills in measurement and control systems, electro-optics, transducers, circuit design, and technical writing. Gary holds nine patents and wrote two books. He grew up near Chicago and was first licensed as a junior high student in 1972. These days, he enjoys station building, contesting, and anything to do with CW, in addition to his other hobbies of woodworking and metalworking. He and his wife, Katharine, live in Livermore.



**Phone charger**



**Power Line Control (PLC-4)**

Hope to see you there!

Jim, K6EI, WVARA Vice President

### **President's Letter**

I would like to thank Bill W9KKN, our outgoing president, for his leadership, dedication, mentorship, and the many contributions to the association. Bill is always willing to jump in with both feet and he will be a hard act to follow. I would also like to thank all the board members for signing up for another year of service, and our diverse and wonderful members and volunteers for everything you have done over the years.

A belated happy new year. May 2021 be enjoyable and kind to you and our families. As the old rodeo cowboy would say "man 2020 what a ride!" 2020 has been a huge struggle with everyone's life turned upside down due to the pandemic. We did end 2020 with approval and distribution of two vaccines. Now a month into the new year we are seeing vaccine production ramp and new vaccines on the way. Hopefully soon we will be able to relax some of the restrictions and be able to return to public socializing. Though I will miss the empty freeways, I can't wait to get out of the house and see friends again.

I was first introduced to the hobby when I was 10. My uncle Bob passed away. When my dad returned from California with my uncle's car, I asked what the extra radios in the car were. They sure don't look like a CB radio. My dad explained what ham radio was and told stories about this brother and a Catholic priest that was Bob's first elmer. For my father and I, time went until the early 90's. After graduating from high school, the family moved from southwest Oklahoma to Stillwater. Returning to OSU sparked the ham bug in my father.

When the no tech arrived in 94, I went and got my license. Throughout the 90's I dabbled a little with packet radio and 6M e-skip. I was active in both OSU W5YJ and Stillwater radio clubs, but for the most part ham radio was not that big a deal in my life. In 2016 my wife said "I was looking for a new way to spend money". I went and took my no code tech again and quickly followed up with general and extra. Then I started looking for a club to join. When I showed up to the first WVARA meeting I found a new home.

So, as we enter the new year with hopes and dreams of returning to a more normal public social life, I encourage you to stay active in ham radio. The bands are a lot more active and there are

more new things than ever in the hobby to explore. For now, be safe, well and stay in the shack (SITS) until you have all your vaccine shots. Though to go outside and enjoy the wonderful weather, it is a good time to repair or install antennas.

73

Clay N5YJZ

WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)					
Tuesdays at 8:30 PM					
Call Sign	Name	01/12/21	01/19/21	01/26/21	02/02/21
<b>Total</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>
AA6RB	Roy			X	
AF6AE	Bill		X	X	X
AI6NT	Henry			X	X
AJ6PV	Steve			X	
K6EI	Jim	X	X	X	X
K6GSA	Jeff			X	
K6QFO	Mike				X
K6VP	Dan		X	X	X
KC6ZKT	Steve	X	X	X	X
KD6WJV	Larry				X
KF6EMB	Svend	X	X	X	X
KK6HPF	Ross	X	X	X	X
KK6VF	Kevin	NET	NET	NET	NET
KN6FGH	Tim	X	X	X	X
KN6KCG	Mile			X	
KN6KOZ	Ed	X			
KX6B	Dick	X	X	X	X
N6BTU	Wayne		X		X
N6FYR	Matt		X	X	
N6PWD	Patrick	X			
NU6P	John		X		
W1MVY	Scott	X	X	X	X
W6BG	Max	X	X	X	X
W6ESL	Tom		X		X
W6FDU	Ben	X			
W6IA	Mark	X	X	X	X
W6MNL	Steve	X			X
W6PK	Phil		X		X
W6TGE	Dave		X		X
W8RJL	Ron	X	X	X	
WB6JHI	Steve	X			X
WB6KHP	Dave	X	X	X	X
WD9DD	Russ			X	
WR3K	Greg			X	
WR6Z	Dave	X		X	

***New Members:***  
***The following new members***  
***joined WVARA recently:***

**Stan Dye, KC7XE**  
**Jon Kim, KI6RT**

***Welcome!!!***

**2021 WVARA Board**

President: Clay Couger, N5YJZ  
Vice President: Jim Peterson, K6EI  
Secretary: Mark Sayre, W6IA  
Treasurer: Russ Blahetka, WD9DD  
Past President: Bill Fehring, W9KKN

**Directors:**

Chuck Kamas, AD6CL, 2020-2021  
Steve Sergeant, KC6ZKT, 2020-2021  
Dave Schultheis, WB6KHP, 2020-2021  
Bobby Barnett, K0XI, 2021-2022  
Svend Jensen, KF6EMB, 2021-2022  
Kevin Smith, KK6VF, 2021-2022

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Club Web Page: [www.wvara.org](http://www.wvara.org)

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KK6VF

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John Glass, NU6P  
Scott Emery, AD6RY  
Jim Peterson, K6EI  
Jon Kelley, K6WV  
Phil Verinsky, W6PK

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